



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 6856

LCO No. 4323



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:
(GL)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING ABNORMAL ECONOMIC
DISRUPTIONS, PRECIPITATING EVENTS AND CONSUMER
PRODUCT DISCLOSURES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) No vendor, as defined in
2 section 42-230 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall
3 downsize, or reduce the quantity, amount, weight or size of, any
4 consumer product, as defined in section 22a-256 of the general statutes,
5 unless such vendor:

6 (1) Reduces the price charged for such consumer product by an
7 amount that is commensurate with such downsizing or reduction; or

8 (2) Clearly and conspicuously discloses that such vendor has made
9 such downsizing or reduction during the twelve-month period
10 beginning on the date on which (A) the downsized consumer product is
11 first sold, or (B) the consumer product is first sold in such reduced
12 quantity, amount, weight or size.

13 (b) Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be deemed an
 14 unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-110b
 15 of the general statutes. The Attorney General shall have (1) exclusive
 16 authority to enforce the provisions of this section on behalf of the state,
 17 and (2) for the purposes of this section, the authority to (A) order an
 18 investigation or examination pursuant to section 42-110d of the general
 19 statutes, and (B) take such other enforcement action under sections 42-
 20 110e to 42-110q, inclusive, of the general statutes as the Attorney
 21 General deems necessary.

22 Sec. 2. Section 42-230 of the general statutes is repealed and the
 23 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

24 (a) As used in this section:

25 (1) "Abnormal economic disruption" means a significant disruption
 26 in the production, supply, distribution, wholesale, sale or availability of
 27 a consumer necessity that (A) is caused by a natural or man-made
 28 disaster or emergency, regardless of the location of such disaster or
 29 emergency, and (B) causes ordinary competitive market forces to cease
 30 functioning normally;

31 (2) "Consumer necessity" (A) means an item purchased by or on
 32 behalf of a state agency, as defined in section 1-79, for the purpose of
 33 ensuring the public health or safety of the residents of this state, (B)
 34 includes, but is not limited to, food, diapers, baby formula,
 35 pharmaceutical products and prescription drugs, and (C) does not
 36 include any item that is subject to a continuous maximum price
 37 requirement established in any applicable federal or state law or
 38 regulation;

39 (3) "Precipitating event" means (A) a civil preparedness emergency
 40 declaration issued by the Governor pursuant to chapter 517, (B) a
 41 transportation emergency declaration issued by the Governor pursuant
 42 to section 3-6b, (C) an abnormal economic disruption notice issued by
 43 the Attorney General pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, or (D) a

44 major disaster or emergency declaration issued by the President of the
45 United States;

46 (4) "Unconscionably excessive price" means an increased price at
47 which a vendor leases, rents or sells an item during a precipitating event
48 if (A) the increased price is grossly disproportionate to the price at
49 which the vendor leased, rented or sold such item (i) immediately before
50 the precipitating event, or (ii) while the precipitating event was
51 reasonably anticipated, and (B) the increased price is not attributable to
52 additional costs incurred by the vendor in leasing, renting or selling the
53 item during the precipitating event; and

54 (5) "Vendor" means a person, corporation or firm, including, but not
55 limited to, a distributor, manufacturer, retailer, supplier or wholesaler.

56 (b) (1) If the Attorney General determines that an abnormal economic
57 disruption exists or is substantially likely to be imminent, the Attorney
58 General may issue a notice for such existing or imminent abnormal
59 economic disruption. The Attorney General shall make such
60 determination (A) following a reasonable investigation and consultation
61 with the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the Commissioner
62 of Economic and Community Development, and (B) with due
63 consideration for whether issuing such notice will disrupt the supply of
64 consumer necessities.

65 (2) A notice of an existing or imminent abnormal economic
66 disruption issued by the Attorney General pursuant to subdivision (1)
67 of this subsection shall:

68 (A) Specify (i) the date on which the Attorney General issued such
69 notice, (ii) the anticipated end date of the period for which the Attorney
70 General issued such notice, (iii) the conditions that have caused, or are
71 substantially likely to have caused, such abnormal economic disruption,
72 (iv) the consumer necessity, consumer necessities or categories of
73 consumer necessities effected by such abnormal economic disruption
74 and therefore subject to the provisions of this section, and (v) the levels

75 of trade or commerce effected by such abnormal economic disruption
76 and therefore subject to the provisions of this section, which levels may
77 include, but need not be limited to, production, supply, distribution,
78 wholesale, sale or availability;

79 (B) Be posted on the home page of the Attorney General's Internet
80 web site; and

81 (C) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, expire
82 sixty days after the Attorney General issued such notice or on an earlier
83 date specified by the Attorney General, whichever occurs first.

84 (3) The Attorney General may, at any time, modify a notice of an
85 existing or imminent abnormal economic disruption issued pursuant to
86 subdivision (1) of this subsection, and extend the term of any such notice
87 for additional sixty-day periods, provided the Attorney General issues
88 a notice that:

89 (A) Specifies (i) the information required under subparagraph (A) of
90 subdivision (2) of this subsection, and (ii) the grounds for such
91 modification or extension; and

92 (B) Is posted in the manner required under subparagraph (B) of
93 subdivision (2) of this subsection.

94 (c) No [person, firm or corporation] vendor shall [increase the price
95 of] lease, rent or sell, or offer to lease, rent or sell, any item [which such
96 person, firm or corporation sells or offers for sale at retail] in the chain
97 of distribution at an unconscionably excessive price at any location in
98 an area which is the subject of any [disaster emergency declaration
99 issued by the Governor pursuant to chapter 517, any transportation
100 emergency declaration issued by the Governor pursuant to section 3-6b
101 or any major disaster or emergency declaration issued by the President
102 of the United States, until the period of emergency or disaster is declared
103 by] precipitating event until the Governor, the Attorney General or the
104 President, as applicable, declares such precipitating event to be at an

105 end. [Nothing in this section shall prohibit the fluctuation in the price of
106 items sold at retail which occurs during the normal course of business.
107 Any person, firm or corporation which violates any provision of this
108 section shall be fined not more than ninety-nine dollars.]

109 (d) Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be deemed an
110 unfair or deceptive trade practice under subsection (a) of section 42-
111 110b. The Attorney General shall have (1) exclusive authority to enforce
112 the provisions of this section on behalf of the state, and (2) for the
113 purposes of this section, the authority to (A) order an investigation or
114 examination pursuant to section 42-110d, or (B) take such other
115 enforcement action under sections 42-110e to 42-110q, inclusive, as the
116 Attorney General deems necessary.

117 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 51-164n of the general statutes is
118 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
119 *2025*):

120 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any person
121 who is alleged to have committed (1) a violation under the provisions of
122 section 1-9, 1-10, 1-11, 2-71h, 4b-13, 7-13, 7-14, 7-35 or 7-41, subsection (c)
123 of section 7-66, section 7-83, 7-147h, 7-148, 7-283, 7-325, 7-393, 8-12, 8-25,
124 8-27, 9-63, 9-322, 9-350, 10-185, 10-193, 10-197, 10-198, 10-230, 10-251, 10-
125 254, 10a-35, 12-52, 12-54, 12-129b or 12-170aa, subdivision (3) of
126 subsection (e) of section 12-286, section 12-286a, 12-292, 12-314b or 12-
127 326g, subdivision (4) of section 12-408, subdivision (3), (5) or (6) of
128 section 12-411, section 12-435c, 12-476a, 12-476b, 12-476c, 12-487, 13a-
129 26b, 13a-71, 13a-107, 13a-113, 13a-114, 13a-115, 13a-117b, 13a-123, 13a-
130 124, 13a-139, 13a-140, 13a-143b, 13a-253, 13a-263 or 13b-39f, subsection
131 (f) of section 13b-42, section 13b-90 or 13b-100, subsection (a) of section
132 13b-108, section 13b-221 or 13b-292, subsection (a) or (b) of section 13b-
133 324, section 13b-336, 13b-337, 13b-338, 13b-410a, 13b-410b or 13b-410c,
134 subsection (a), (b) or (c) of section 13b-412, section 13b-414 or 14-4,
135 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 14-12, subsection (d) of
136 section 14-12, subsection (f) of section 14-12a, subsection (a) of section

137 14-15a, section 14-16c, 14-20a or 14-27a, subsection (f) of section 14-34a,
 138 subsection (d) of section 14-35, section 14-43, 14-44j, 14-49, 14-50a, 14-58
 139 or 14-62a, subsection (b) of section 14-66, section 14-66a or 14-67a,
 140 subsection (g) of section 14-80, subsection (f) or (i) of section 14-80h,
 141 section 14-97a or 14-98, subsection (a), (b) or (d) of section 14-100a,
 142 section 14-100b, 14-103a, 14-106a, 14-106c, 14-145a, 14-146, 14-152, 14-
 143 153, 14-161 or 14-163b, subsection (f) of section 14-164i, section 14-213b
 144 or 14-219, subdivision (1) of section 14-223a, subsection (d) of section 14-
 145 224, section 14-240, 14-250, 14-253a, 14-261a, 14-262, 14-264, 14-266, 14-
 146 267a, 14-269, 14-270, 14-272b, 14-274, 14-275 or 14-275a, subsection (c) of
 147 section 14-275c, section 14-276, subsection (a) or (b) of section 14-277,
 148 section 14-278, 14-279 or 14-280, subsection (b), (e) or (h) of section 14-
 149 283, section 14-283d, 14-283e, 14-283f, 14-283g, 14-291, 14-293b, 14-296aa,
 150 14-298a, 14-300, 14-300d, 14-300f, 14-319, 14-320, 14-321, 14-325a, 14-326,
 151 14-330 or 14-332a, subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of section 14-386a, section
 152 15-15e, 15-25 or 15-33, subdivision (1) of section 15-97, subsection (a) of
 153 section 15-115, section 16-15, 16-16, 16-44, 16-256e, 16-278 or 16a-15,
 154 subsection (a) of section 16a-21, section 16a-22, subsection (a) or (b) of
 155 section 16a-22h, section 16a-106, 17a-24, 17a-145, 17a-149 or 17a-152,
 156 subsection (b) of section 17a-227, section 17a-465, subsection (c) of
 157 section 17a-488, section 17b-124, 17b-131, 17b-137, 19a-33, 19a-39 or 19a-
 158 87, subsection (b) of section 19a-87a, section 19a-91, 19a-102a, 19a-102b,
 159 19a-105, 19a-107, 19a-113, 19a-215, 19a-216a, 19a-219, 19a-222, 19a-224,
 160 19a-286, 19a-287, 19a-297, 19a-301, 19a-309, 19a-335, 19a-336, 19a-338,
 161 19a-339, 19a-340, 19a-425, 19a-442, 19a-502, 19a-565, 20-7a, 20-14, 20-
 162 153a, 20-158, 20-231, 20-233, 20-249, 20-257, 20-265, 20-324e, 20-329c or
 163 20-329g, subsection (b) of section 20-334, section 20-341l, 20-366, 20-482,
 164 20-597, 20-608, 20-610, 20-623, 21-1, 21-38, 21-39, 21-43, 21-47, 21-48 or
 165 21-63, subsection (d) of section 21-71, section 21-76a or 21-100,
 166 subsection (c) of section 21a-2, subdivision (1) of section 21a-19, section
 167 21a-20 or 21a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 21a-25,
 168 section 21a-26, subsection (a) of section 21a-37, section 21a-46, 21a-61,
 169 21a-63, 21a-70b or 21a-77, subsection (b) or (c) of section 21a-79, section
 170 21a-85 or 21a-154, subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 21a-159,

171 section 21a-278b, subsection (c), (d) or (e) of section 21a-279a, section
 172 21a-415a, 21a-421eee, 21a-421fff or 21a-421hhh, subsection (a) of section
 173 21a-430, section 22-12b, 22-13, 22-14, 22-15, 22-16, 22-26g, 22-30, 22-34,
 174 22-35, 22-36, 22-38, 22-39, 22-39f, 22-49, 22-54, 22-61j or 22-61l,
 175 subdivision (1) of subsection (n) of section 22-61l, subsection (f) of
 176 section 22-61m, subdivision (1) of subsection (f) of section 22-61m,
 177 section 22-84, 22-89, 22-90, 22-96, 22-98, 22-99, 22-100 or 22-111o,
 178 subsection (d) of section 22-118l, section 22-167, subsection (c) of section
 179 22-277, section 22-278, 22-279, 22-280a, 22-318a, 22-320h, 22-324a or 22-
 180 326, subsection (b), subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (e) or subsection
 181 (g) of section 22-344, subsection (a) or (b) of section 22-344b, subsection
 182 (d) of section 22-344d, section 22-344f, 22-350a, 22-354, 22-359, 22-366,
 183 22-391, 22-413, 22-414, 22-415, 22-415c, 22a-66a or 22a-246, subsection (a)
 184 of section 22a-250, section 22a-256g, subsection (e) of section 22a-256h,
 185 section 22a-363 or 22a-381d, subsections (c) and (d) of section 22a-381e,
 186 section 22a-449, 22a-450, 22a-461, 23-4b, 23-38, 23-45, 23-46 or 23-61b,
 187 subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 23-65, section
 188 25-37 or 25-40, subsection (a) of section 25-43, section 25-43d, 25-135, 26-
 189 18, 26-19, 26-21, 26-31, 26-40, 26-40a, 26-42, 26-43, 26-49, 26-54, 26-55, 26-
 190 56, 26-58 or 26-59, subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 26-61,
 191 section 26-64, subdivision (1) of section 26-76, section 26-79, 26-87, 26-89,
 192 26-91, 26-94, 26-97, 26-98, 26-104, 26-105, 26-107, 26-114a, 26-117,
 193 subsection (b) of section 26-127, 26-128, 26-128a, 26-131, 26-132, 26-138,
 194 26-139 or 26-141, subdivision (1) of section 26-186, section 26-207, 26-215,
 195 26-217 or 26-224a, subdivision (1) of section 26-226, section 26-227, 26-
 196 230, 26-231, 26-232, 26-244, 26-257a, 26-260, 26-276, 26-280, 26-284, 26-
 197 285, 26-286, 26-287, 26-288, 26-290, 26-291a, 26-292, 26-294, 27-107, 28-13,
 198 29-6a, 29-16, 29-17, 29-25, 29-143o, 29-143z or 29-156a, subsection (b), (d),
 199 (e), (g) or (h) of section 29-161q, section 29-161y or 29-161z, subdivision
 200 (1) of section 29-198, section 29-210, 29-243 or 29-277, subsection (c) of
 201 section 29-291c, section 29-316 or 29-318, subsection (b) of section 29-
 202 335a, section 29-381, 30-19f, 30-48a or 30-86a, subsection (b) of section
 203 30-89, subsection (c) or (d) of section 30-117, section 31-3, 31-10, 31-11,
 204 31-12, 31-13, 31-14, 31-15, 31-16, 31-18, 31-23, 31-24, 31-25, 31-32, 31-36,

205 31-47 or 31-48, subsection (b) of section 31-48b, section 31-51, 31-51g, 31-
 206 52, 31-52a, 31-53 or 31-54, subsection (a) or (c) of section 31-69, section
 207 31-70, 31-74, 31-75, 31-76, 31-76a, 31-89b or 31-134, subsection (i) of
 208 section 31-273, section 31-288, 31-348, 33-624, 33-1017, 34-13d or 34-412,
 209 subdivision (1) of section 35-20, subsection (a) of section 36a-57,
 210 subsection (b) of section 36a-665, section 36a-699, 36a-739, 36a-787, 38a-
 211 2 or 38a-140, subsection (a) or (b) of section 38a-278, section 38a-479qq,
 212 38a-479rr, 38a-506, 38a-548, 38a-626, 38a-680, 38a-713, 38a-733, 38a-764,
 213 38a-786, 38a-828, 38a-829, 38a-885, 42-133hh, [42-230,] 42-470 or 42-480,
 214 subsection (a) or (c) of section 43-16q, section 45a-283, 45a-450, 45a-634
 215 or 45a-658, subdivision (13) or (14) of section 46a-54, section 46a-59, 46a-
 216 81b, 46b-22, 46b-24, 46b-34, 46b-38d, 47-34a, 47-47 or 47-53, subsection
 217 (i) of section 47a-21, subdivision (1) of subsection (k) of section 47a-21,
 218 section 49-2a, 49-8a, 49-16, 52-143 or 52-289, subsection (j) of section 52-
 219 362, section 53-133, 53-199, 53-212a, 53-249a, 53-252, 53-264, 53-280, 53-
 220 290a, 53-302a, 53-303e, 53-311a, 53-314, 53-321, 53-322, 53-323 or 53-331,
 221 subsection (b) of section 53-343a, section 53-344, subsection (b) or (c) of
 222 section 53-344b, subsection (b) of section 53-345a, section 53-377, 53-422
 223 or 53-450 or subsection (i) of section 54-36a, or (2) a violation under the
 224 provisions of chapter 268, or (3) a violation of any regulation adopted in
 225 accordance with the provisions of section 12-484, 12-487 or 13b-410, or
 226 (4) a violation of any ordinance, regulation or bylaw of any town, city or
 227 borough, except violations of building codes and the health code, for
 228 which the penalty exceeds ninety dollars but does not exceed two
 229 hundred fifty dollars, unless such town, city or borough has established
 230 a payment and hearing procedure for such violation pursuant to section
 231 7-152c, shall follow the procedures set forth in this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2025	New section
Sec. 2	July 1, 2025	42-230
Sec. 3	July 1, 2025	51-164n(b)

Statement of Purpose:

To (1) provide that no vendor shall downsize, or reduce the quantity, amount, weight or size of, any consumer product unless such vendor (A) reduces the price charged for such product by a commensurate amount, or (B) discloses that such vendor has made such downsizing or reduction, (2) authorize the Attorney General to declare and respond to abnormal economic disruptions, (3) prohibit vendors from charging unconscionably excessive prices following precipitating events, and (4) modify the procedures applicable to persons who fail to adhere to provisions concerning precipitating events.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]